

***Eurystyles crocodilus* Szlach. (*Orchidaceae*), a new species from Brazil**

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Summary : Description of *Eurystyles crocodilus*, a new species from Brazil, related to *E. actinosiphila* (Barb. Rodr.) Schlecht. and *E. ananassocomos* (Rchb. f.) Schlecht.

Résumé : Description de *Eurystyles crocodilus*, une nouvelle espèce du Brésil affine de *E. actinosiphila* (Barb. Rodr.) Schlecht. et de *E. ananassocomos* (Rchb. f.) Schlecht. Garay.

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The genus *Eurystyles* Wawra embraces 15 species of neotropical, small, epiphytic orchids of the subtribe *Spiranthinae*. In the course of preparing a revision of the genus a new species of *Eurystyles* has been discovered. It is described here for the first time.

***Eurystyles crocodilus* Szlach., sp. nov. — Fig. 1.**

*Planta E. actinosophilae similis. Labellum auriculis valde reductis supra faciem labelli vix exsertis.
Rostellum viscidiumque nulla. Ovarium perianthiumque glabra.*

TYPE : *Wettstein & Schieffner s.n.*, Sued-Brazilien, Hymenopolis bei São Paulo, 9.1901 (holo-, WU). Only known material.

Small epiphyte. Leaves 4, subsessile or sessile, 8-20 mm long, 3-7 mm wide, forming a basal rosette, lanceolate to broad lanceolate, acute, minutely ciliate on margins. Inflorescence 16 mm long, dense, more or less ovate, set on very delicate, densely glandular axis. Flowers small, erect, tubular. Floral bracts ovate-lanceolate, acute, ciliate on margins. Ovary untwisted, glabrous. Perianth segments thin, membranous, transparent, very delicate, glabrous, with papillate epidermis at the apices of sepals. Dorsal sépal 3.5 mm long, 0.7 mm wide, oblong-lanceolate, acute. Lateral sepals 5.6 mm long, 0.6 mm wide, linear with lanceolate apices. Petals 3 mm long, 0.6 mm wide, lanceolate-spathulate, acute. Lip set on broad claw adnate to the sepaline tube, indistinctly divided into the hypochile and epichile. Basal part 2 mm long by 1.3 mm wide, ovate with knob-like, small, fleshy auricles; apical part 1.3 mm long by 1.1 mm wide, rhomboid-ovate, papillate. Gynostemium erect, 2.3 mm long. Column foot adnate to the ovary. Anther oblong-lanceolate. Stigma narrow, horizontal, forming a transverse ridge. No staminodes.

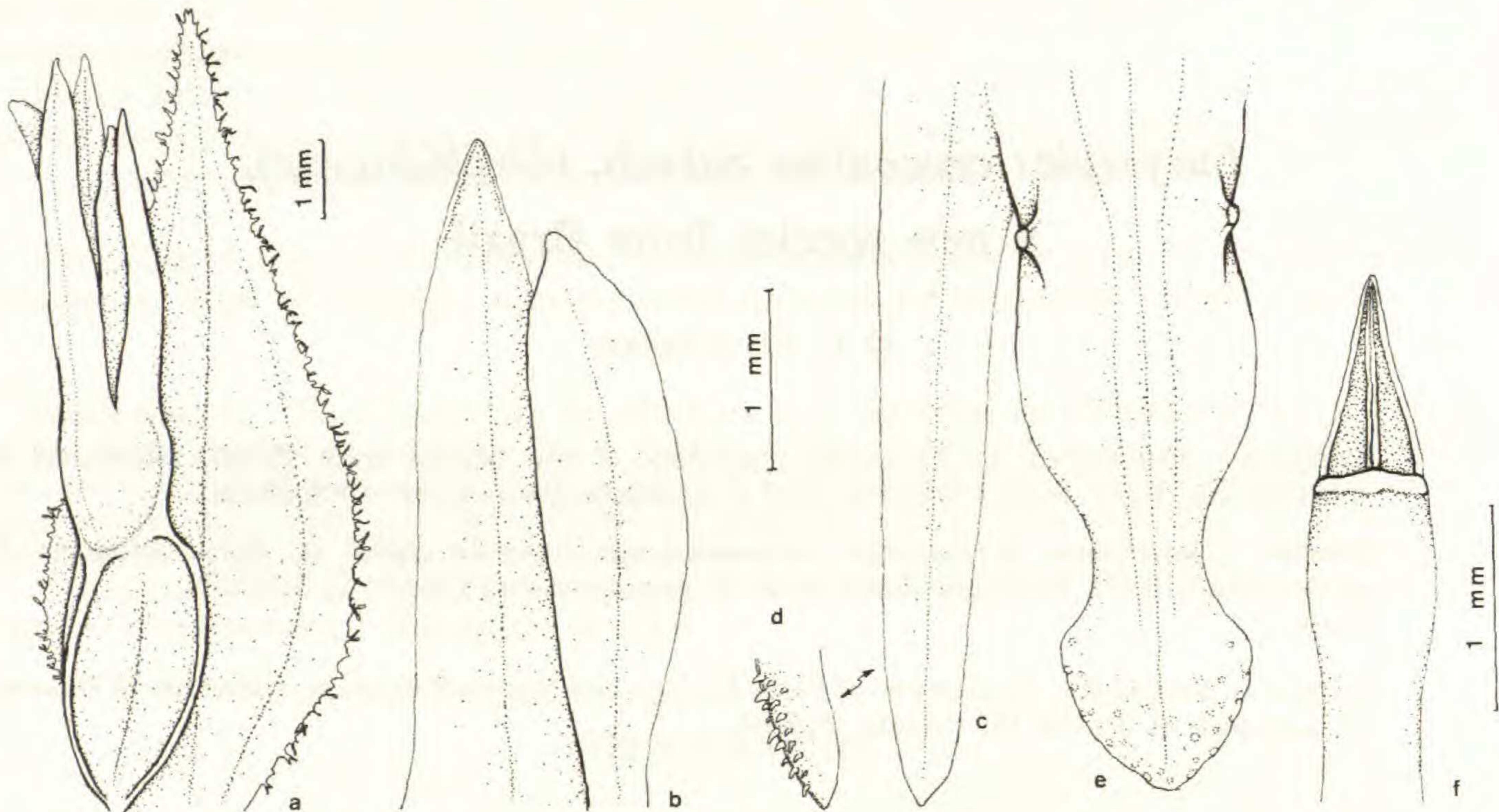


Fig. 1. — *Eurystyles crocodilus* Szlach. : a, flower and floral bract ; b, dorsal sepal and petal ; c, lateral sepal ; d, apex of lateral sepal from the outside ; e, lip ; f, gynostemium, bottom view.

ETYMOLOGY : *crocodilus* — crocodile ; the species name refers to the lip form which, in general outline, resembles a head of this reptile.

Eurystyles crocodilus seems to be related to *E. actinosiphila* (Barb. Rodr.) Schlecht. and *E. ananassocomos* (Rchb. f.) Schlecht., but it differs from the both in the lip form and gynostemium structure. The basal lip auricles of *E. crocodilus* are intermediate in size between *E. actinosiphila*, in which they are large, and *E. ananassocomos* which has none. All of these species are autogamous. Both *E. actinosiphila* and *E. ananassocomos* have long, linear and membranous staminodes, while in *E. crocodilus* staminodes are completely reduced.